



January - March  
2023 | Issue No. 17

# COPYRIGHT MATTERS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION



*His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR*

## Nigeria Gets New Copyright Act, 2022

**THE** President, His Excellency, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR on 17th March 2023 signed into law a new Copyright Act that replaces the old Act of 1988 which was last revised in 1999. This represents the final phase of the reform process which the Nigerian Copyright Commission initiated in 2012.

It will be recalled that the Copyright Bill was transmitted by the Executive to the National Assembly in June 2021 and passed by both the Senate and House of Representatives in April and July 2022 respectively.

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# DG, NCC speaks on New Copyright Act, 2022

**DDPA: Sir, Congratulations on the signing into Law of the Copyright Act 2022. What will you say significantly is the difference between the former Act and this new Act?**

**DG:** Thank you. We all deserve to be congratulated. I should commend the Management and staff of the Commission, our institutional and individual stakeholders; everyone that has, in one way or the other, made this possible. The enactment is the outcome of our collective resolve and commitment to changing the copyright narrative in Nigeria, driven by the unity of purpose and passion.

Now let's put the new Act in context. As you know, the old Act, like old wine has been with us since 1988 with two minor amendments in 1992 and 1999 which did not really amount to a radical shift. We have been operating with that statute from way before the end of the last Millennium and long before the Internet became a household name.

Aware of the shortfalls in the law, the Commission in 2012 embarked on a deliberate reassessment of the copyright system. This was about 20 years after the emergence of Nollywood. Of course, a lot had happened that required us to go back to the drawing board and recalibrate the copyright system for the digital environment. Nigeria ratified the two Internet Treaties - WIPO WPPT and WIPO WCT - in October 2017. On the same date we ratified the Beijing and the Marrakesh treaties making it imperative that we modernise our Copyright Act to make it more treaty compliant.

**DDPA: What fortunes does the New Act hold for the creative industry of Nigeria and the Country?**

**DG:** For a start, the new Act is fit for purpose. Apart from domesticating the four treaties we ratified in 2017, it also provides a better balance in the provision of exceptions, including the Marrakesh Treaty allowing the blind, visually impaired and persons who are print disabled have better access to learning materials.

Second, the new Act is the first statute in the intellectual property field that will be enacted under a civilian regime. The first Copyright Act of 1911, was inherited from the British in 1912; the second was a blind attempt to craft a domestic statute in 1970 even before we knew what copyright was all about while the 1988 Act was concluded under a military regime. So, now we have a bottom-up statute that was well interrogated by stakeholders and the Government including the Federal Executive Council.

This Act better redefines the rights granted in line with the international standards and the appropriate language for the digital environment.

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*Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, making a point in his office during the interview with staff of the Commission's Public Affairs Department*



We express our profound gratitude to President Muhammadu Buhari for signing the Bill into law at the twilight of his administration. We see this as a worthy parting gift to the Nigerian creative sector. We also thank the 9th National Assembly for passing the Bill. These go to underscore the government's commitment to the protection of intellectual property, particularly, copyright in Nigeria.

Secondly, we see the new law as preserving the gains and progress made under the old law (Copyright Act, Cap. C28, LFN 2004) and advancing new horizons. The scope of protection has been expanded, and more stringent criminal penalties for infringement are now provided for in the new law.

The Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has been more legally equipped in terms of regulatory and enforcement powers. So, we expect to see a more proactive, robust, and assertive NCC in the coming weeks, months, and years.

The stakeholders, particularly, the Collective Management Organisations (CMOs) are given ample room, with the approval and backing of the NCC, to deliver effective, efficient and transparent services to the creators and owners of copyright protected works and to help the government and the country to fulfil their obligations under relevant international conventions and treaties.

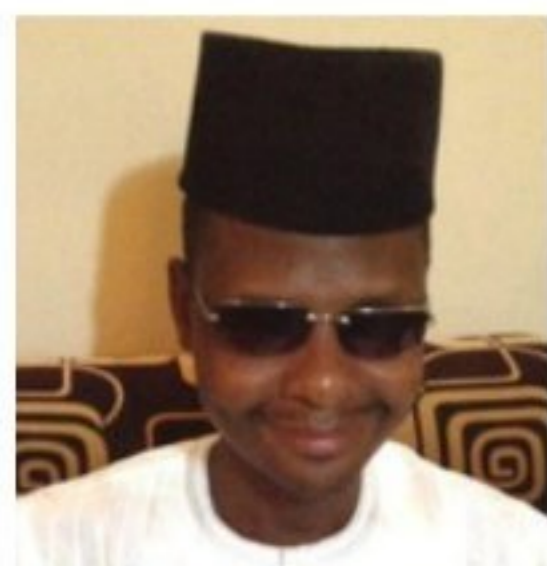
**Mr. Mayo Ayilara MD/CEO, Musical Copyright Society Nigeria (MCSN)**



Nigerian Publishers Association had been yearning for this development for long and was happy to see it come to fruition. The signing into law of the bill will give more confidence to owners of copyright materials in Nigeria and offer them favourable climate to operate just as their counterparts enjoy elsewhere in the world. The new Copyright Act would also attract more players to the industry and give more job opportunities, thus, improving Nigeria's economy.

We hereby appeal to all and sundry to support this initiative for the betterment of all. We call on all copyright owners, publishers, authors and other stakeholders like the booksellers, printers, librarians, parents and students to rise up and support the implementation of this new Act in order to pave way for the copyright sustainability in Nigeria. We equally appeal to all book pirates to desist from their nefarious acts, as it would not be business, as usual, for them, with this new Copyright Act.

**Chief Dr. Cyril Anioke, President, Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA)**



I want to thank Mr. President, for taking this bold step to providing access and for making it possible for millions of visually impaired and print disabled Nigerians. We appreciate this gesture of signing into law the new Copyright Act and this singular act of Mr. President and the National Assembly will turn around the lives of visually impaired Nigerians.

In terms of education, leisure, empowerment and employment, a lot of our people will now be fully engaged and become productive citizens like any other Nigerians. We thank Mr. President for this wonderful commitment to the blind community.

**Mr. Ishiyaku Adamu, President Nigerian Association of the Blind (NAB), commenting on the new Copyright Act during a NAB Press Conference in Abuja on the domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty by Nigeria.**



"The 2022 Copyright Act as signed into law by President Buhari is a great boost to the book industry in Nigeria. It takes a lot of talent, energy and resources to come up with a creative work, and it is only natural that authors benefit financially from their effort. Before now, copyright infringements especially for books, were commonplace.

But we hope that with the Copyright Act, 2022 there will definitely be a huge decrease in the level of infringements. I sincerely thank the Nigerian Copyright Commission and other stakeholders for spending their energies to ensure that we have this very important law in place. We urge the NCC and other institutions to be tough against copyright infringements, it is the only way to protect our creative works and foster economic growth and innovation.

**Mr. Camillus Ukah, President, Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA)**



It is indeed a very huge and good step in the humongous task of putting everything in order in the IP space. I must give kudos to all the people that were part of making this happen. But that been said, we have more hurdles to cross and I'm sure the NCC and all stakeholders in the creative industry will be highly encouraged by this step. Kudos to the entire NCC team and relevant stakeholders as well as members of the National Assembly that made this happen. Unto the next step!

**Innocent Idibia (2Baba), Music icon**



For Sight Savers, this represents a big milestone in the effort to provide greater access to people with disability, especially people with visual impairment. With the new Act, the creation and sharing of learning materials in accessible formats have been simplified. This will go a long way in promoting greater cultural participation, education and social integration among the blind community

For us, it is a time of celebration and beyond the assent to the bill, we are putting all hands on deck to ensure we support the Nigeria Association of the Blind (NAB) in the implementation of the new Act.

**Miss Esther Angulu, Rep. of Country Director, Sight Savers, speaking during the NAB Press Conference in Abuja on domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty by Nigeria.**

**EDITORIAL TEAM**

**Editor-In-Chief**

John O. Asein, Ph.D.

**Editor**

Augustine Amodu

**Editorial Assistants**

Ijeoma Egbunike  
Olumide Oduntan  
Mary Adegbile  
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**IT**

Yinka Lawal

**Design**

Uwem Udoh

**Photography**

Jacob Adache

## NCC Restates Commitment to Fight Piracy

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) has restated its commitment to the fight against copyright piracy in Nigeria. This assurance was given by the Director-General of the Commission, Dr. John O. Asein during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Commission, Booksellers Association of Nigeria (BAN) and Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA) to promote the business of book distribution and curb piracy of copyright works in the sector.

The MoU was signed by the DG-NCC, Dr. Asein; President of NPA, Chief Cyril Anioke and President of Booksellers Association of Nigeria, Mr. Dare Oluwatuyi on 9th February, 2023 in Ikeja, Lagos.

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President, Booksellers Association of Nigeria, Mr Dare Oluwatuyi exchanging a signed copy of the MoU with President, Nigerian Publishers Association, Chief Dr. Cyril Anioke while Director-General Nigerian Copyright Commission, Dr John O. Asein looks on, after the signing of Memorandum of Understanding between the three on 9th February, 2023 in Lagos.

## New Act Will Sanitise, Reboot the Copyright System – DG NCC

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL,** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein has assured stakeholders in the book value chain that the New Copyright Act will not only sanitise and regulate the creative industry but will also reboot the copyright system for significant economic benefits to all players in the copyright ecosystem.

This was disclosed during a courtesy visit on the Director-General by some Executives of the Nigeria International Book Fair (NIBF) Trust at the Commission's Headquarters Abuja on Wednesday 29th March 2023.

Dr. Asein pointed out that the Commission was determined to use the new legislation for the benefit of right owners in all sectors of the creative sector, including the book industry. He therefore renewed the agency's commitment to deepening synergy with all players in the book sector to bring about the needed turn around for authors and investors.

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (1st L), addressing some officials of the Nigeria Book Fair Trust (NBFT). L-R: Chairman REPRONIG and immediate past Chairman, NBFT, Mr. Gbadega Adedapo; Deputy Director, Public Affairs, NCC, Mrs. Ijeoma Egbunike; MD, Global Books and Publishers, Dr. Tahir Ahmad; Chairman NBFT, Mr. Dare Oluwatuyi and MD, Fortham Publishers, Ms. Msurshima Chenge, during the courtesy visit to the Commission on 29th March 2023.

# NCC to Roll out New Regulations to Curb Book Piracy

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) will soon be deploying more proactive measures, including new regulations and anti-piracy devices, to guarantee better administration of copyright and promote sustainable growth in the different sectors of the creative industries.

Under the new regulatory framework, major players, including publishers, producers, importers, distributors, marketers and other intermediaries will be held to higher standards of respect for copyright to ensure that authors and investors are adequately rewarded.

Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O Asein, stated this while receiving the President, Booksellers Association of Nigeria (BAN) and Chairman, Planning Committee of the Nigeria International Book Fair (NIBF), Mr. Dare Oluwatuyi who paid a courtesy visit to the Commission on 20th January 2023.

While noting that there is need for publishers and booksellers to improve on their business models, he warned that the Commission will not sit back and watch the destruction of the book ecosystem. "Destroying the book sector does not only affect the economy but it is also a threat to the education system and the future of learning", Dr. Asein, stressed.

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Director-General, NCC Dr. John O. Asein (L), speaking while President, Booksellers Association of Nigeria (BAN) Mr. Mr. Dare Oluwatuyi, takes note, during the latter's courtesy visit to the NCC Headquarters, Abuja, January 20, 2023.

# NBA, NCC Move to Strengthen Copyright Knowledge Amongst Lawyers

**THE** Abuja Branch of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), the Unity Bar, and the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) have agreed to work together to upscale and raise copyright knowledge amongst lawyers, starting with the Abuja branch of the Association.

This was the outcome of the visit of the Executives of the Branch of NBA to the Commission's Headquarters, 7th February 2023.

Speaking during the visit, the Director-General of the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein observed that the empowerment of lawyers is imperative because of the important role they would play in NCC's renewed effort to strengthen the copyright ecosystem in Nigeria to benefit the creative economy. He explained that the Commission will work with interested branches to achieve this.

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (M) making a point to the Chairman, NBA Abuja Branch, Afam Okeke Esq (5th L), during the courtesy visit to the Commission; while R-L: Director Nigerian Copyright Academy (NCA), Mr. Collins Nweke; NCC Director of Operations, Mr. Obi Ezeilo; Director, Regulatory and Compliance, Mr. Mike Akpan and other NBA, Abuja Executives listen.

# DG, NCC Receives Thomas Sankara Leadership Prize for Integrity and Transparency, Tasks Stakeholders to Embrace Copyright Knowledge

**THE** Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein has emphasised the need for Governments and Stakeholders in Africa to invest in youths, pay more attention to the creative sector and develop the copyright industry, noting that the strength of the continent is in its youth.

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*President YOUPAD, Ms. Etongo Francine (L) presents the Thomas Sankara Leadership Award as Pan African Public Service Veteran to the Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (R) at the Commission's headquarters, Abuja.*

## NCC Partners SMEDAN To Deepen IP Knowledge Among SMEs

**NIGERIAN** Copyright Commission (NCC) and the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) have agreed to collaborate in order to strengthen Intellectual Property (IP) knowledge among Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to facilitate the growth of the creative economy in Nigeria.

The Commission and SMEDAN consented to the partnership during the courtesy visit of the Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, to the SMEDAN Headquarters, Abuja on Wednesday 15th February 2023.

Speaking during the Visit, the Director-General, NCC, stressed the importance of copyright and IP as the linchpin Nigeria's creative industry. According to him, the creative industry which is in the hands of small and medium enterprises is the engine that drives the economy today and needs to be leveraged on using the instruments of IP.

Dr. Asein, gave details of the proposed partnership to include the deployment of IP knowledge in form of training to staff of SMEDAN to bridge the knowledge gap among the workforce and add value to their work; participation of female staff in the "We Win IP" programme of the NCC, an initiative targeted at strengthening more women in IP to empower other women in line with the theme of the 2023 World IP Day as well as the training of more women in innovation and creativity to ensure sustainability in the application of IP knowledge.

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*DG, SMEDAN, Asiwaju Olawale Fasanya (L) presents a souvenir to DG, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, during the courtesy visit to SMEDAN headquarters on 15th February, 2023.*

## Interview of the Director Regulatory and Compliance (DRC), Mr. Mike Akpan on the the Copyright Act 2022

***Congratulations on the assent of the 2022 Copyright Act by Mr. President. You have been a vital part of the process of the drafting and reviewing of the Copyright Bill in the past 10 years. How do you feel with it's recent signing into law?***

**DRC:** Thank you for your kind words and acknowledgement of my modest efforts in this regard. Quite a number of people have also been a part of this initiative particularly the former DG-NCC, Mr. Afam Ezekude who initiated the Copyright Reform in 2012. It's been a very long walk through the passage to signing of the Act.

Naturally, as a person, I am very delighted that our efforts of about 10 years did not go down the drain and that our desire to give Nigeria a modern Copyright Law has come to be.

I am also delighted to be part of the actualisation of this initiative because a lot of people who are part of this exercise have exited the system but nevertheless, we share these achievements with them. I am equally delighted to be here to see when the Bill is being passed, signed and hopefully witness the implementation.

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*NCC Director of Regulatory and Compliance, Mr. Mike Akpan, sharing his thoughts on the new Copyright Act.*

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## Interview of Director Operations Department, Mr. Obi Ezeilo on the provisions of the Copyright Act, 2022

***Congratulations on the passage of the Copyright Act, 2022. As an active participant and contributor to the processes that brought about the actualisation of the Act, how did you receive the news of the assent to the new Copyright Act by Mr. President?***

Indeed, it was a moment of joy for me. I am sure for the Commission and the larger copyright industry, because it has been a long journey.



*NCC Director of Operations, Mr. Obi Ezeilo, fielding a question.*

You recall we started the process on copyright system reform in 2012, when our former DG, Mr. Afam Ezekude initiated the reform process and there was a whole lot of meetings, interventions, discussions with stakeholders, lawyers, legislators and other stakeholders until finally the Bill was signed into law. So, I am very excited and the entire industry is excited about this also.

Specifically what makes the new Act different from the old and how, in your opinion, will the new Act provide for more effective administration, regulation, enforcement and protection of Copyrights?

The new Act made some extensive changes that I think will directly affect the copyright space in Nigeria and there are several of them:

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# NCC, PMAN, Spanish Embassy, Others Organise Copyright Roundtable for Music

**THE** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) in collaboration with the Performing Musicians Association of Nigeria (PMAN), the Embassy of Spain in Nigeria and Musical Copyright Society Nigeria (MCSN) recently organised a Roundtable for the Music Industry to discuss issues and find pathways to optimise the benefit from the copyright system.

The Roundtable, with the theme: "Maximising the International Dimension of Music as a Vehicle of Culture" followed the three-day Vis-à-Vis Music Festival organised by the Embassy was held at the Nigerian Music House in Lekki, Lagos on 24th March, 2023 to foster healthy cultural exchange and increase the revenue to musicians from their music.

In his opening remarks at the event, the Director-General of NCC, Dr. John O. Asein said: "This is the beginning of a dialogue that will not end today but will continue to explore the centrality of music in the movement of culture. He announced the coming into force of the new Copyright Act and renewed the Commission's commitment to make it work, "to provide a congenial atmosphere for creatives and guarantee sufficient return on investment for them."

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Director-General, NCC, Dr John O. Asein, addressing participants at the Roundtable for the Music Industry; while the Spanish Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Juan Ignacio Sell (R); Chief Executive Officer, MCSN, Mr Mayo Ayilaran (1st L) and President, PMAN, Mr Pretty Okafor (2nd L), listen at the PMAN headquarters, Lagos 24th March, 2023

# Tap from the Opportunities in IP – DG, NCC Urges Young Lawyers

**THE** Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission, NCC, Dr. John Asein has encouraged young lawyers in the country to tap from the rich resources offered by IP to enhance their professional skills in the evolving world.

The Director-General made these remarks in his address at a capacity building training on copyright organised by the NCC in collaboration with the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Unity Branch, Abuja for members of Young Lawyers Forum Unity Branch FCT, held at the JK Gadzama Court in Abuja on 28th March 2023.

Speaking further, the Director-General explained that the training was aimed at helping young lawyers understand the workings of the copyright system and how they can benefit from it. According to him "The NCC is interested in mentoring them to enhance their knowledge and professional capacity in using the copyright system."

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein, addressing participants at the Capacity Building Training for Young Lawyers organised by the NCC in Abuja on 28th March 2023.



# Female CEOs Advised to Leverage on Copyright to Boost Digital Economy

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL,** Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) Dr. John O. Asein, has urged female business owners and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) to leverage on the opportunities provided by the copyright system to facilitate easy access to creative contents and business models that will attract new streams of income for them in the digital era.

This was disclosed during his presentation at the Future Forward Forum on Power of Networking in the Digital Era organised by Dotmount Communications in collaboration with the NCC at the Centro Hub, Asokoro, Abuja on Saturday 18th February 2023.

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Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein in a group photograph with some female staff members in the Headquarters, during the interactive session to mark the International Women's Day (IWD), 8th March, 2023.

# DG NCC Tasks Staff on Self Development, High Ethical Standards

**STAFF** of the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) have been advised to invest in life long education programmes to sharpen their career goals and enhance effective service delivery on the job.

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The Director, Nigerian Copyright Academy (DNCA), Mr. Collins Nweke, making a presentation on Creativity, Copyright and the Digital Environment, Challenges and Opportunities, during the Future Forward Forum on the Power of Networking in the Digital Era at Centro Hub, Asokoro Abuja on Saturday 18th February 2023.

# NCC Will Build Staff Competence; Female Staff Urged to Break Barriers

**THE** Management of Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) will continue to ensure equity and fairness in raising the competence level of female staff members to aid career progression.

The Commission's Director-General, Dr. John O. Asein, said this in his goodwill message during the 2023 International Women's Day celebration at the Commission's headquarters Abuja on Wednesday 8th March 2023.

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DG, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein addressing participants at the Training and Interactive Session for newly promoted staff of the Commission in Abuja 22nd March 2023. Others L-R are: Director NCA, Mr. Collins Nweke; Director PRS, Mr. Taiye Hassan Usman; Director Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade; Director Operations, Mr. Obi Ezeilo and Director Regulatory and Compliance, Mr. Mike Akpan.

# Know Your Rights – DG, NCC Enjoins Creatives

**THE** Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) Dr. John O. Asein has stressed the need for creatives to adequately equip themselves with knowledge of their rights as creatives, the limitations and remedies available in the event of infringements under the copyright law.

The Director-General, who made the call while speaking at the Made in Nigeria Entrepreneurship Exhibition (MINEE) organized by Kay Professional Media, in Abuja, March 25th 2023, called on copyright owners to register their works with the Commission by visiting the e-registration platform at [www.eregistration.copyright.gov.ng](http://www.eregistration.copyright.gov.ng).



NCC Director Public Affairs, Mr. Augustine Amodu (2nd R), with other Panelists at the Made in Nigeria Entrepreneurship Exhibition (MINEE) organized by Kay Professional Media in Abuja, March 25th 2023. Others L-R: Trade Ambassador, International Trade Facilitation, Mr. Collins Nwosu; Market and Business Developer, Cradle.com, Mr. Benjamin Olusegun.

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# DG, NCC Tasks Schools, Stakeholders to Groom Young Creatives

**THE** Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC), Dr. John O. Asein has emphasised the need for parents, schools and other stakeholders to encourage and create a conducive environment for their wards and students to productively explore and express their ingenuity, noting that creative sectors are major drivers of progressive economies across the world.

According to him, creative activities such as singing; acting; drawing; painting; writing and other intellectual expressions, should be encouraged not just for economic gain but also because they keep youths positively engaged.

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NCC Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Mrs. Ijeoma Egbunike (L) presenting a plaque and gift to one of the winners at the 5th edition of Olumawu School Reading Fair Competition, in Abuja, 18th March 2023



## NIGERIAN COPYRIGHT COMMISSION (NCC)



# Celebrate THE AUTHOR IN YOU! **RESPECT COPYRIGHT** Our Creativity; Our Future

### How To Reach Us

Federal Secretariat  
Complex,  
Phase 1, Annex II  
(Ground Floor),  
Shehu Shagari Way,  
Maitama  
P.M.B. 406, Garki,  
Abuja.

**Phone:**

09019001400

**Website:**

[www.copyright.gov.ng](http://www.copyright.gov.ng)

**Email:**

[info@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:info@copyright.gov.ng)

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### What To Do

- Know your rights
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- Reproduce only authorised copies
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- Insist on contracts in your dealings
- Report copyright infringements and piracy
- Register your work with NCC
- Defend your copyright
- Keep creating

### Register Your Copyright

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Antipiracy Hotline: 0901-900-3200  
Go to [www.copyright.gov.ng](http://www.copyright.gov.ng)

**NCC ...Protecting Creativity**

## World Wrapperman Eulogies DG-NCC on his Diamond Jubilee

**COPYRIGHT** enthusiast and social crusader, Mr. Adjarho David Obaro, popularly known as the World Wrapperman has felicitated with the Director-General, Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) Dr. John O. Asein on his Diamond Jubilee celebrated on the 23rd of March 2023.

The World Wrapperman, who visited the NCC Benin Zonal office on 23rd March 2023 to share his goodwill, described the celebrant as an amiable gentleman who is ever committed to the service of humanity.

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*The World Wrapperman, Mr. Adjarho David Obaro (L) with NCC State Coordinator, Benin Office, Mr. Joseph Ajang (R) during the former's visit to the office, 23rd March 2023.*

## Kaduna Office Visits Presiding Judge Federal High Court Kaduna Judicial Division

**THE** Director, NCC Kaduna Office, Mrs Susan Bashorun in company of some officers of the Kaduna office paid a courtesy visit to the Presiding Judge of the Federal High Court Kaduna Judiciary Division, His Lordship Hon. Justice Railwanu M. Aikawa.

The visit was aimed at bringing His Lordship abreast with the provisions of the recently signed Copyright Act, 2022.

Presenting a copy of the Act to His Lordship, the DKO highlighted on the novel provisions and used the occasion to intimate him of the pending matters of the Commission before the Honourable Court in Kaduna.

Mrs. Bashorun also informed His Lordship about the e-registration scheme of the Commission and the need to sensitize the support staff of the Court on copyright matters. His Lordship showed keen interest and suggested that a workshop be organized between July and September 2023.

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*Director, NCC Kaduna Office, Mrs. Susan Bashorun (R) presenting a copy of the new Copyright Act to His Lordship Hon. Justice R. M. Aikawa (L) during the visit of the Commission's staff to the Federal High Court (Kaduna Division).*



Chairman, NBA Abuja Branch, Afam Okeke Esq (L) presenting a copy of the NBA, 2023 Diary to the Director-General, NCC Dr. John O. Asein during a courtesy visit of the NBA Abuja Branch Executives to the Commission, 7th February 2023.



Director-General, NCC Dr. John O. Asein (7th L) and Chairman, NBA Abuja Branch, Afam Okeke Esq. (6th L) in a group photograph with NBA Abuja Branch Executives and members; some NCC Directors and staff members from the Legal Department, during a courtesy visit to the Commission.



Director-General, NCC Dr. John O. Asein (M); flanked by President, Booksellers Association of Nigeria (BAN) Mr. Dare Oluwatuyi (L) and Director Operations, NCC, Mr. Obi Ezeilo during the visit of the BAN President to the Commission, January 20, 2023.



Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (3rd L) in a group photograph with L-R Chairman, Nigerian Book Fair Trust, Mr. Dare Oluwatuyi; MD, Fortham Publishers, Ms. Msurshima Chenge; Chairman REPRONIG and immediate past Chairman, NBFT, Mr. Gbadega Adedapo; Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Mrs. Ijeoma Egbunike and MD, Global Books and Publishers, Dr. Tahir Ahmad during a courtesy visit to the Commission, 29th March 2023.



Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (3rd L), in company of Director, Finance and Accounts, Mr. Mark Obasi (2nd L); Director, Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade (3rd R); Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Mrs. Ijeoma Egbunike (2nd R) and Assistant Director, Administration, Mr. Sunday Popoola (1st R), receives the Thomas Sankara Leadership Prize and Corporate Commendation Award presented by the Secretary-General of Youth Partnership for Africa Development (YOUPAD), Mr. Kewrel Suleh (1st L) at the NCC office on 6th January 2022.



Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (R), making a remark after receiving the Thomas Sankara Leadership Prize while some officials of YOUPAD R-L President YOUPAD, Ms. Etongo Francine; Secretary-General, YOUPAD, Mr. Kewrel Suleh and Director, Finance, YOUPAD, Mr. Abel Okewu, listen.

"Of all the creative work produced by humans anywhere, a tiny fraction has continuing commercial value. For that tiny fraction, the copyright is a crucially important legal device."

— Lawrence Lessig



Director, NCC Enugu Office, Mrs. N.C. Okeke (R) with former Director, Centre for Black African and Art Civilization (CBAAC), Chief Ferdinand Anikwe (M) and Curator, National Gallery of Art (NGA), Enugu, Mrs. Patricia Nkwocha, at the NGA art exhibition themed: "Credible Elections" held in Enugu, 25th January, 2023.



President/publisher, Dotmount Communications, Mr. Babatunde Adedotun Olaoluwa (3rd L); Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Augustine Amodu (3rd R); Director, Nigerian Copyright Academy, Mr. Collins Nweke (4th R); MD/CEO March Energy, Mrs. Aisha Salisu (M); MD/CEO Rock Reality Ltd. Dr. Ibukun Adedayo, in a group photograph with some NCC Staff and Staff of Dotmount Communications during the Future Forward Forum on the Power of Networking in the Digital Era.



L-R: Representative of Nigerian Tourism Development Authority (NTDA) Mrs Funebi Otu Umondak; Director, Regulatory, NCC, Mr Mike Apkan; 2nd Vice President, PMAN, Mr Zaaki Azay; 1st Vice President, PMAN Mr Sunny Nneji and CEO, MCSN, Mr Mayo Ayilaran, during the Roundtable organised for the music industry by the Embassy of Spain, NCC, in collaboration with the Performing Musicians Employers Association of Nigeria (PMAN) and Musical Copyright Society Nigeria (MCSN) at the Nigerian Music House in Chevy View Estate, Lekki, Lagos on 24th March, 2023.



Director-General, NCC, Dr John O. Asein (3rd L) flanked by the Spanish Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Juan Ignacio Sell (4th L) and Representative of Nigerian Tourism Development Authority, Mrs. Funebi Otu Umondak (2nd L); President, PMAN, Mr. Pretty Okafor (4th R) in a group photograph with other participants at the Roundtable held for the music industry in Lekki, Lagos, 24th March, 2023.



NCC Director, Regulatory and Compliance, Mr. Mike Akpan, making a presentation on 'Copyright Issues in the Digital Environment: Challenges and Opportunities' at the Capacity Building Training for Young Lawyers in Abuja on 28th March 2023.



Chairman NBA, Abuja Branch (6th L), DG NCC (7th L) with resource persons and participants at the capacity building workshop organised by the NCC for young lawyers of the Branch in Abuja on 28th March 2023.



Director Public Affairs, Mr. Augustine Amodu (2nd R) and some staff at the Commission's stand at the Made in Nigeria Entrepreneurship Exhibition (MINEE) organized by Kay Professional Media in Abuja, March 25th 2023.

Chief Copyright Officer, Regulatory and Compliance, NCC, Oludayo Folarin, taking a participant through the mandates and duties of the Commission at the Commission's stand at the Made in Nigeria Entrepreneurship Exhibition (MINEE) organized by Kay Professional Media in Abuja, March 25th 2023.



A cross section of participants at the hybrid interactive session in commemoration of International Women's Day (IWD) held at the Commission's headquarters, March 8, 2023.



Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein giving a goodwill message to female staff members of the Commission during a hybrid interactive session in commemoration of International Women's Day (IWD) at the Commission's headquarters, 8th March 2023



NCC Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Mrs. Ijeoma Egbunike (L) and Principal Copyright Officer, Public Affairs, Mr. Amos Abutu (R) during the 14th edition of Leadership Annual Conference and Awards in Abuja, 31st January, 2023.



DG NCC, Dr. John Asein and some Directors in a group photograph with staff members newly promoted to level 12 in the Headquarters, during the Training and Interactive Session for them.



His Excellency, Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Professor Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, GCON (7th R) flanked left by Former Prime Minister, Republic of Kenya, his Excellency, Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga; and right by Chairman, LEADERSHIP Group Ltd. Mrs. Zainab Nda-Isaiah; Chairman, NDLEA, Brig-Gen. Buba Marwa (5th R) and some of the award recipients during the 14th Leadership Annual Conference and Awards at the ICC, Abuja, 31st January 2023



The Director-General NCC, Dr. John O. Asein in a handshake with National President Society of Nigerian Artists (SNA), Mr. Muhammad Suleiman during the latter's visit to the Commission's Headquarters, 30th March 2023.



DG, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (3rd L), in a group photograph with the National President, SNA Mr. Muhammad Suleiman (3rd R); Director Administration, Dr. Idowu Ogunkuade (1st L); Secretary General, SNA, Mr. Akeni Prosper (2nd L); Assistant Director, Public Affairs, Ms. Oyebola Oyewo (2nd R) and the Chairman, SNA, Abuja, Mr. Aderinkomi John (1st R) during a courtesy visit to congratulate the Commission on the new Copyright Act, 2022, 30th March 2023.



Director-General, NCC, Dr. John O. Asein (2nd R); the Director-General, SMEDAN, Asiwaju Olawale Fasanya (M); Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Augustine Amodu (1st R) and Director, Engineering, Technology and Infrastructures, SMEDAN, Engr. Anthony Igba (2nd L) listen while the Director, Entrepreneur Development and Promotions, SMEDAN, Mr. Monday Ewans (1st L) makes a contribution during the courtesy visit of the DG, and some Management Staff of NCC to SMEDAN headquarters, Abuja on Wednesday 15th February 2023.



NCC Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Augustine Amodu, delivering the Director-General's goodwill message during the Black History Month Celebration on Peace & Black Resistance at the Matrix Gallery of Contemporary Art, Maitama Abuja, 21st February 2023.



R-L: NCC Director, Public Affairs, Mr. Augustine Amodu (1st R); Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy, Mrs. Julia McKay (2nd R); representative of the DG, National Gallery of Arts, Mr. Abraham Sharna (2nd L) and President, Society of Nigerian Artist (SNA), Mr. Mohammed Sulaiman (1st L), in a group photograph during the Black History Month Celebration at the Matrix Gallery of Contemporary Art, Maitama Abuja, February 2023.



# PHOTOSPLASH



DG, NCC, Dr John O. Asein (4th R) in a group photograph with President, Booksellers Association of Nigeria, Mr Dare Oluwatuyi (5th L), President, Nigerian Publishers Association, Chief Cyril Anioke (3rd R), Chairman, Nigeria Book Fair Trust, Mr Adedapo Gbadega (2nd R), President, Association of Nigerian Authors, Mr Camilus Uka (3rd L) and other guests during the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Commission, Booksellers Association of Nigeria and Nigerian Publishers Association, 9th February, 2023.



Representative of the DG, NCC, Deputy Director Public Affairs, Mrs. Ijeoma Egbunike (3rd L) in a group photograph with the Proprietess of Olumawu School, Christiana O. Olanipekun (2nd L); Director Olumawu School, Mr. Ola Garuba (4th L); Guest Speaker, and Founder Fahiritah Books, Ms. Salamatu Sule (2nd R); Principal Olumawu School, Mr. Rotimi Jiboku (1st R) and winners of the Reading Fair Competition Titled: Reading for Empathy, Achievement and Discovery (READ) Competition, held at the school in Abuja, 18th March 2023



His Lordship Hon. Justice R. M. Aikawa (3rd R); the Director, NCC Kaduna Office, Mrs. Susan Bashorun (2nd R) and the Registrar Hajia Aisha Omolade Esq. (3rd L); in a group photograph with some staff of the Commission, L-R: Principal Copyright Officer, Kushi Grace Saidu; Assistant Director Legal, Mrs Rukayya Y. Muhammad and Principal Copyright Officer, Magdalene Ekanem (1st R), during a courtesy visit to His Lordship, Justice on 30th March 2023.



MD/CEO March Energy, Mrs. Aisha Salisu (M) and MD/CEO Rock Reality Ltd. Dr. Ibukun Adedayo, in a group photograph with other young female CEOs and Entrepreneurs during the Future Forward Forum on the Power of Networking in the Digital Era organised in collaboration with the NCC in Abuja, 18th February 2023.

## Copyright Act, 2022

### Section 87:

"(1) The Commission shall establish and maintain a Register of Works (in this Act referred to as "the Register").

(2) A person may apply in the prescribed manner to the Commission to register a work that is eligible for copyright under this Act."

**To register your works and for more information on the activities of the Nigerian Copyright Commission, visit:**

[www.copyright.gov.ng](http://www.copyright.gov.ng)



# NCC Offices

## NCC HEADQUARTERS

Federal Secretariat Complex, Phase I, Annex II  
(Ground Floor), Shehu Shagari Way, Maitama.  
P.M.B. 406, Garki Abuja, F.C.T.

**Antipiracy:** 09019003200

**Copyright e-Registration:** 09019011230, 08183413611

**DG's Office:** 09019001400, 09019001401

**Web:** [copyright.gov.ng](http://copyright.gov.ng)

**Email:** [info@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:info@copyright.gov.ng)

**E-Registration:** [eregistration.copyright.gov.ng](http://eregistration.copyright.gov.ng)

**Facebook:** Nigerian Copyright Commission

**Instagram:** @copyrightnigeria

## BAUCHI

High Court Close, off Ahmadu Bello Way,  
P.M.B. 0049, Bauchi, Bauchi State.

**Email:** [bauchi@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:bauchi@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001404

## BENIN

Block F1, Basement Floor, Federal Secretariat Complex,  
Aduwawa, P.O.Box 13906, Benin-City, Edo State.

**Email:** [benin@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:benin@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001405

## ENUGU

10 Club Road, (1st Floor) Opposite Ikenga Hotel,  
P.M.B. 05166, Enugu, Enugu State.

**Email:** [enugu@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:enugu@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001406

## IBADAN

Federal Secretariat Complex, Ikolaba, Ibadan,  
Oyo State.

**Email:** [ibadan@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:ibadan@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001407

## ILORIN

Kwara State Art and Culture Complex, P.M.B. 1471,  
Ilorin, Kwara State.

**Email:** [ilorin@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:ilorin@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001408

## KADUNA

2nd Floor, Federal Secretariat, Ali Akilu Road, Kawo,  
P.M.B. 2406, Kaduna, Kaduna State.

**Email:** [kaduna@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:kaduna@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001418

## KANO

Ministry of Information Building, Audu Bako  
Secretariat, P.M.B. 3186, Kano, Kano State.

**Email:** [kano@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:kano@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001419

## LAGOS

16, Aloba Street Ebute Metta West, P.M.B. 12723,  
GPO, Marina, Lagos State.

**Email:** [lagos@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:lagos@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001403

## MAKURDI

Federal Secretariat Complex, Wing A, Ground floor,  
Jonah Jang Crescent, Makurdi, Benue State.

**Email:** [makurdi@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:makurdi@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001420

## ONITSHA

Ministry of Justice Building, Enugu Road, Onitsha,  
Anambra State.

**Email:** [onitsha@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:onitsha@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001421

## OWERRI

Federal Secretariat Complex  
Port Harcourt Road Owerri, Imo State.

**Email:** [owerri@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:owerri@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001422

## PORT HARCOURT

Federal Secretariat, 7th Floor, Aba Road, Port Harcourt,  
Rivers State.

**Email:** [portharcourt@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:portharcourt@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001423

## UYO

Federal Secretariat, Abak Rd., P.M.B. 1226,  
Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

**Email:** [uyo@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:uyo@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001424

## YOLA

Federal Secretariat, Yola Road, P.M.B. 1221, Jimeta,  
Yola, Adamawa State.

**Email:** [yola@copyright.gov.ng](mailto:yola@copyright.gov.ng)

**Telephone:** 09019001425